

NEWS RELEASE

STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHIANG OFFERS FREE TAX SERVICES FOR VETERANS

John Chiang, Chair of the State Board of Equalization, is partnering with U.S. Vets Los Angeles and U.S. Vets Long Beach to offer free tax services for veterans at two locations.

The first event takes place Thursday, March 30, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at U.S. Vets Westside Residence Hall, 733 S. Hindry Avenue, Inglewood. On Saturday, April 15, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., tax preparers will be on hand at U.S. Vets Villages at Cabrillo, 2001 River Avenue, Long Beach. Since April 15 falls on a Saturday this year, taxpayers have until April 17 to file their returns.

"It's an honor to provide free tax services to the men and women of our armed forces," said Chiang. "This program is a way of saying thank you to veterans for their service to this country."

Tax attorneys from the firm of Morgan Lewis and certified Volunteer Income Tax Assistance volunteers will be on hand at the Inglewood location to assist veterans in filling out their tax forms. Depending on their circumstances, veterans may be eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit, Homeowners or Renter Assistance, or other tax breaks.

"It would be particularly unfortunate if veterans did not claim money to which they are entitled," said Chiang. "This program gives them the information and assistance they need."

John Chiang was first elected to the Board of Equalization in 1998, and re-elected in 2002. In December 2004, he was named by his colleagues BOE chair. He also serves as a member of the Franchise Tax Board.

Chiang represents the BOE's 4th District, which includes 73 cities in Los Angeles County, including Los Angeles, and contains more than 8.5 million people.